


73-592

1 FEB 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence
Deputy Director for Plans
Deputy Director for Science and Technology
Deputy Director for Support
General Counsel
Legislative Counsel
Inspector General
Director of National Estimates
Deputy to the DCI for Intelligence Community

SUBJECT : Congressional Record Statements

At a recent Morning Meeting it was suggested that we make available to Agency employees statements which appeared in the Congressional Record in recent weeks in connection with the change of Director. The complete record consists largely of laudatory statements concerning Mr. Helms and Mr. Schlesinger. Also included were items of more general relevance. These have been extracted and are attached for such use as you judge appropriate within your organization.


W. E. Colby
Executive Director-Comptroller

STATINTL

Att

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD -- HOUSE

January 18, 1973

E-X-T-R-A-C-T

REPRESENTATIVE MAHON: "... He of course has not been charged with the responsibility of making national policy. His duty has been that of providing intelligence information to policymakers in Government.

"Many view foreign intelligence in the context of military operations solely, but it is also essential that we have accurate intelligence to forestall conflict. In March of 1969, President Nixon referred to CIA:

As one of the great instruments of our Government for the preservation of peace, for the avoidance of war, and for the development of a society in which this kind of activity would not be as necessary, if necessary at all.

"Mr. Speaker, the responsibility for providing objective facts and detached analysis in these crucial areas is the only way that we can be assured that those individuals responsible for making critical judgments concerning our Nation's security have available to them a basis of knowledge for the action he takes or, perhaps more important in some instances, for not taking any action at all.

"The heavy burden upon the shoulders of Richard Helms and the Central Intelligence Agency, has not been limited to ferreting out, correctly analyzing, and disseminating information to the appropriate officials. These are not simple tasks in themselves, but no matter how well done, their value is naught unless the information is believed and used by those who have the responsibility to make decisions. Credibility within the Government community is the lifeblood of CIA. Without it, its work is ineffective and its cost is extravagant.

"... credibility has been the trademark at the Central Intelligence Agency. Integrity and objectivity have been the watchwords. Abstinence from any possible policy involvement has been the rule. ..."

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD -- SENATE

January 23, 1973

E-X-T-R-A-C-T

SENATOR STENNIS: "... Under the direction of Mr. Helms, CIA has applied itself to the gathering and analysis of intelligence. Policymaking has been left to the policymakers as Mr. Helms said it would be when he testified before the Senate Armed Services Committee on his nomination in 1966.

"... Mr. Schlesinger has assured us that the intelligence community, under his leadership, will continue to make independent judgments, free of all pressures and influence. He wants to generate intelligence estimates which reflect an honest appraisal of all the data at hand.

"To me this is supremely important. I believe the CIA has always sought to produce independent assessments. If our experts ever depart from such an independent course, we are on our way to having no intelligence at all.

"... he is going to report directly to the President and the intelligence community of which he is the leader will make these independent judgments and directly report them. We think that is a highly important principle.

"... the Central Intelligence Agency, the central part of it, has had a very clean budget and a very conservative budget under retiring Director Helms,...

"... I think it is a very difficult task. It is one of those agencies of Government that has to take the licks and bricks for everything that happens and everything that is said, and keep on doing a good job.

"It would be frightening to me to think about us trying to exist in this modern world without a capable Central Intelligence Agency and particularly frightening to think how any human being could even begin to discharge his duties as President of the United States without a capable agency, with an outstanding man at the head of it. ..."

SENATOR THURMOND: "... This is a most sensitive position. It is a most important position. In fact, almost the life of the Nation depends upon not only our preparedness to meet an attack, but the information we receive as to what is going on in countries as to whether we will probably have an attack. The CIA is extremely important for that reason."

SENATOR HUGHES: "... but in the order of the world today, with continued utilization of war as a political instrument for settling the differences between different segments of humanity on the earth, whether divided by region or by country, it seems to me that, in the interest of our society and our country, it is necessary to maintain such an instrumentality as the Central Intelligence Agency.

"The control of such an agency is extremely important. The knowledge of what is being undertaken around the world by such an agency, both inside various countries of the earth and between the countries of the earth, is extremely important.

"... that the wielding of influence to governments that are friendly to this Nation that we all love dearly is one of the prime purposes of its existence, that the gathering of information on present and potential adversaries of this Nation is of exceeding importance to the security of the Nation as well as to the balance of power in other areas of the world where international differences may exist between nations.

"The purpose and the reason for the Senator from Iowa's saying this today is to point out simply the fact that in an agency that seems absolutely essential to our survival as a free people, that has such great potential not only for security but for harm unless handled wisely, with conscience and political direction, and with moral concern for the survival of the human race, we must have the best that we can give and respect and honor.

"I think it would be important to this body to know that in the questioning there arose occasion to ask if this agency had ever been involved in the surveillance of public officials in this country, and the answer was direct. Dr. Schlesinger had been assured that the agency was never engaged in such activities, and he further stated he guaranteed that as long as he was Director they never would be engaged in such activities."